

C V P I D S MESSENGER:

O R.

A trusty Friend stored with sundry sorts of serious, wittie,
pleasant, amorous, and delightfull Letters.

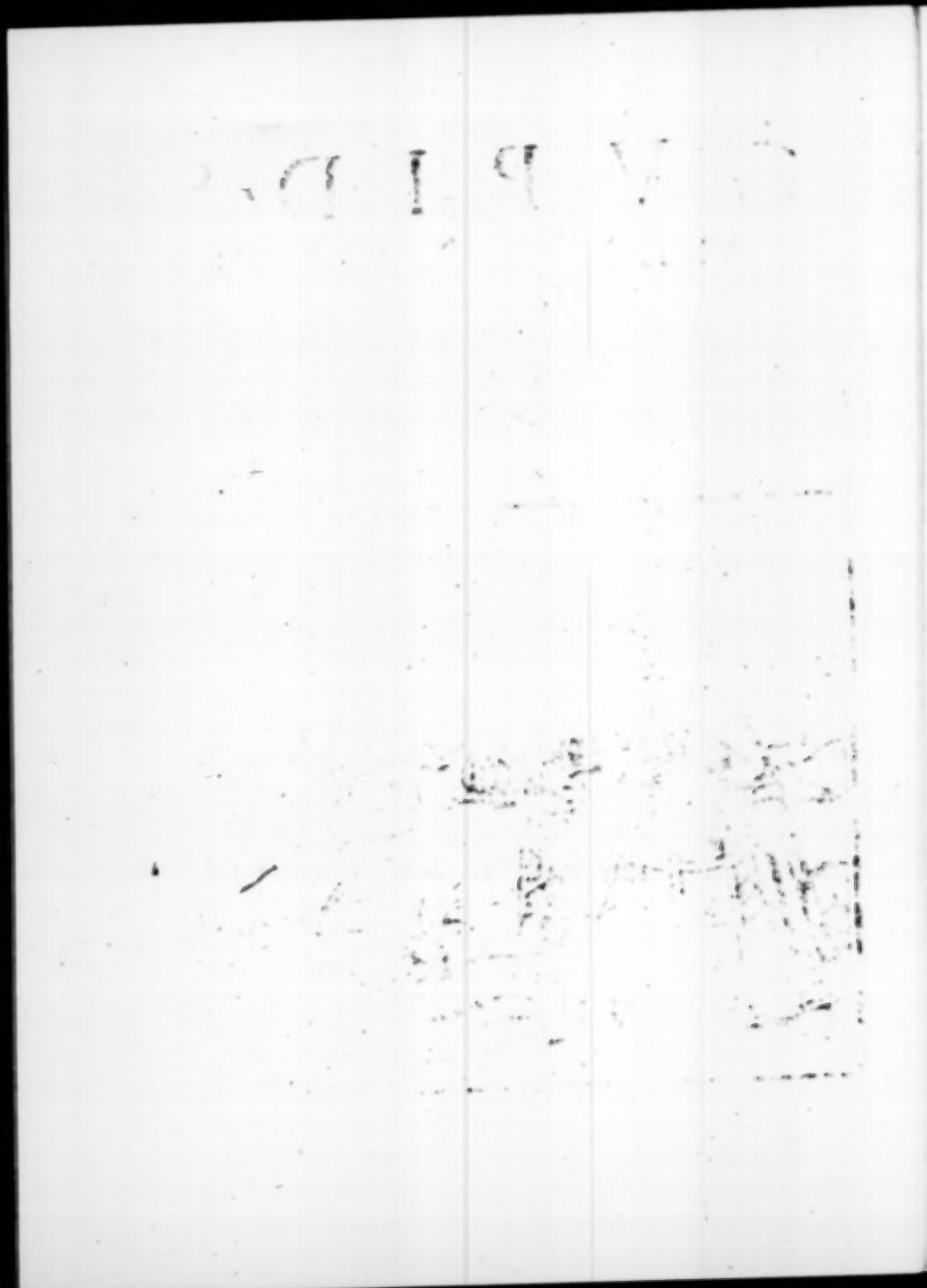
What Cupid blu'bes to discouer, Thus to write he learnes the Lover.

Newly written.



Printed at London by M. F. and are to be sold by Francis Groome
over against the Saracens head without Newgate 1639.

Book of 12.99



The Condemned

A Letter inviting his Friend to write to him. *See p. 2*
The Answer. A Letter exhorting for his writing. *See 3*
A Letter to a friend vpon the death of his wife. *See 5*
A comfortable Letter vpon the losse of an husband. *See 4*
A Letter of griefe for friends absence. *See 5*
A Letter for the energety of good will to a young Gentle-
woman. *See 6*
Her Answer. *See 7*
Another Letter to his Mistres, desiring her loue. *Her Answer. See 8*
To a beauteous Lady vpon a long affection. *See 9*
Her Answer. *See 10*
To a ridiculous Gentlewoman. *Her Answer. See 11*
To a Lady, with whom he fell in loue seeing her at a solemn
Triumph. *See 12*
Her Answer. *See 13*
To his Mistres that was of wanton and light carriage. *See 14*
Her Answer. *See 15*
A desperate Louer to his quondam Mistres. *See 16*
Her Answer. *See 17*
A Letter of true kindnesse. Her answer. *See 18*
A Letter of counsell from a discreet mother to her daughter
newly married. Her answer. *See 19*
A Letter in case of wrong supposed to be committed. *See 20*
A Letter from his Servant to his Master. *See 21*
An answer of a Letter for curesie and fauour receaved. *See 22*
The Fathers Letter against the Sonne. *See 23*
The Answer. *See 24*
To his mistres (quondam) having spent all his meaneys vpon
her in prosperitie, he being imprisoned she forakes him. *See 25*
To his friend lying long sick. *See 26*
A Letter wherein is recommended a Nobleman from his
Inferior the condicione of the Inchustrie of a Bellon. *See 27*
The Answer. *See 28*
A merry Letter to his friend in London. *See 29*
A Letter gratulacrie. *See 30*
A Letter to his friend. *See 31*

The Contents.

A Letter expostulatory for breach of promise.	38
To his friend faire to poverty.	<i>ibid.</i>
A Letter of a Gentlewoman to a Gentleman with whom she fell in love, and, <i>Her Answer.</i>	53-54
A Letter from a Chapman in the Country to a Tradeiman in London, with, <i>The Answer.</i>	55-56
A Letter of thankfulness for kindness shewed to his son.	57
<i>The Answer.</i>	58
A Letter to his Mistresse in the Country that desired newes from the City.	<i>ibid</i>
<i>Her Answer.</i>	40
A wooring and comfortable letter to a noble widow that had newly lost her husband.	42
<i>Her Answer.</i>	43
Another to the same purpose.	43
<i>Her Answer.</i>	44
A Letter of discontent after the falling out of Lovers.	45
To his angry Mistres.	46
A Letter from an Apprentice in London, to his father in the Country.	<i>ibid.</i>
A Letter from a husband to his wife. <i>Her Answer.</i>	47-48
A Letter from one kinisman to another in London or any other place.	49
A Letter to request the borrowing of hundred pounds.	50
<i>The Answer.</i>	51
A Letter to his friend for breach of promise.	52
<i>Her Answer.</i>	53
To his friend a Merges.	54
A Letter to an unfaithfull friend.	<i>ibid.</i>
A Letter for admittance into fruiture.	55
To his love upon a long and fruitlesse affection.	56
To his sweet heart in the Country.	<i>ibid.</i>
A young mans Letter to his enamoured mistres.	57
<i>Her Answer.</i>	58
A Letter of Request.	<i>ibid.</i>
A Letter of discontent, vpon a deniall of a Request.	59
To a Court Lady. <i>Her Answer.</i>	59-60



CUPIDS MESSENGER DELIVERING SYNDRY Excellent Letters.

A Letter inviting his Friend to write to him.



Though the want of your fonder Societie
(my worthy Friend) doe excuseth cause
of griste, yet it lies in you even by the
ten million of your desired Letters, to
mitigate that soxcole: and shew the
distance of place both denie do our acclimated
confidence and small communica-
tion, let the passing and entercourse of our Letters supply
that defect. Now our tonges cannot be heard, let us be
frequent in our writing: and let not the change of places al-
ter our mindes. Wherefore that you might not lange mis-
negligent of our firs- paffes amitie, or faygetfull of our olde
friend ship, I haue tooke benevolence to bift you with this let-
ter, bescir you to be no niggard in this kinde of friendly
remembrance. I wish to you all prosperous captures as to
my selfe, and continue my love to you with all friendlie-
nes. But leſſ the qualitie of my Letter groe to the length of
an Epitome, I let bounde to my writing, and remaine

London.

Febr. 4. 1613.

Yours in bounde friendlie-nes.

C.D.

2 Cupids Messenger.

This day.

A Letter expository for now writing.

I am afraid (indigous and kind Sir) that it is with me as it is with that unfortunate Pilot who falls into the Gulf of Scylla, who by his indeavours to avoid the danger of Charybdis.

Incidit in Seylum cupido visus Charybdis.

I confess I haue received Letters from you, and seeking by not answering all this while to conceal the rudeneise of my vapolished penne from the deepe discerning eye of your judgement, I doubt whether I haue not made shipwracke of your good opinion, who happily impaties my silence vnto my negligencie of your loue, or to my oblivion of your passed kindenesse: But I beseech you (kindest Sir) to haue thus much confidence in disposition, that no confused Chaos of cogitations, no fullnesse of impovement, shall banish your remembraunce out of my thoughts: though I bee never so busie I make answer to those I little regard, I dare scarce write to you (I am possessed with such a due reverencie of your worthinesse) when I am most at leasure. Yet finding in my selfe how farre greater a crime it is to neglect duty then to lay open my imperfection to a well wishing friend, I haue chosen the latter to make tender of the former: wishing that as you equalize graute Nestor in wisedome, so you might parallel him in the longeuity of a happy life, I humblye surceale:

22. 6. 1630. B.R.
Newcastle,
June 2. 1630. B.R.

By your command.

June 2. 1630. B.R.

22. 6. 1630. B.R.

Cupids Messenger.

3

A Letter to a friend vpon the deaſh of his wife.

The acquaintance I had with your vertuous wife (honest friend) makes me ſeale the ſenſe of her loſſe, for he that can be inſenſible of the loſſe of a good woman, is an alien to nature, and a rebell to all moall vertues. I may truly ſay ſhe was piaſeble to me for her many good parts, but they were but good piontions for the world to caſe.

Give me leane to aſke you why you moane, I meane not why you moane outwairdly, which is a ſtate of moan, and a matter of ſorow, but why doe you moane inwardly, which is the true ſorow: you will ſay (I ſay) the loſſe of a companion. Indeed you doe well, for ſaid wife was solitary before Goo gaue her one, ſo ſhould he be after Goo takes her away: but there is a moane in all things. To be hard hearted is beſt like, to be tender is affeſſionate, to be ſenſible is manly. As for you, you cannot offere any acceptable ſacrifice to the deaſh, then by turning the head you hate her, into care of her children, to which I know you by nature ſo well inclined, that I need not to indiue, but onely remember you: but once wife men in sudden accidents and in caſes concerning themſelues are ſometimes to ſteke, I am bold to aduife you now, though henceforth I would be glad to be aduife by you: reſting

Yours ſtrongly
Your ſervant,

Arthingworth.
July 7. 1619.

J. M.

A



A comfortable Letter vpon the losse of
a Husband.

Madam

Though vns: knowes the losse of your losse, yet I may take upon me to saye that another man, being for the losse I heare you maye finde of your misfortune and affliction: I saye this because I ame a mane, and I confess there is great misfortune of griefe for good kinnes for the smallnesse of worthy husbandes, but you were better forget the heire then the lining, (your daughters I meane) to whom (I ame opinionate) you would not wish to let an heire as your heire, though bring them, which by this meanes of remeeting fayrely is too-much heiremen: Do not your heire of patience-lie before you, but so meane
especially before your selfe in your troubles, that your
reverendnesse maye finde those causes to comfort you, then
to shew you my selfe I behinde you help me to be
assured of the comforte of your selfe in your troubles, and
I: alsoe shew you that your selfe is
Arthingworth

W.M.

March 4. 1629.

A. A.

1629. A
1629. A



A.

Cupids Messenger.

A Letter of griefe for his friends absence.

Of such comfortable we is the familiaritie of a friend, companion, that those hours of our life seeme most happy which are passed away in the societie of a friend: If we take a journey his company is in stead of a Coach, there's not a thought, nor a word, of the tediousnesse of the way: If we abide at home, we imagine that the like of Time too spedily swipes away the hours. But on the contrarie, needs must his life be melancholike that hath no friend to sweeten the slow transiition of Time. I wish my owne experiance were not too true prooffe hererof, for since your absence, sweetest friend, melancholly hath beene my concomitant, and your remembraunce my greatest comfort. And as the Cuckle pines away after the losse of his mate, so since your departure my bosom hath admitted no consolation. I request you by that interest which I have in your loue, since in person I cannot, that I may in your a Letter. Silence betwene absent friends incurreth the censure of an inofficious and incivill disposition. But I know you will vindicate your selfe from a staine of so abhorent a nature. I rest

Frandon.
Aug. 1618.

Yours vnremoueably,

I. C.



A Letter for the entreaty of good will to a
young Gentlewoman.

The long and considerate regard by which in depe contemplation I have eyed your most rare and singular vertues, tynded with so admirable beauty, and much ple-

asing

Ang condition, grafted in your person, hath moved me, good
wiftris E. B. among a number whom I know intirely to
faour you, earnestly to loue you and therewith to offer
my selfe unto you. Now howbeit I may happely serue in
some ries, the least in worthinesse of a number that daily
frequent you, yet may you vouchsafe in your owne private
to reckon me with the greatest in willingnesse. Wherein,
is a settled and immouable affection towards you of ser-
uent and assured loue, grounded vpon the vndeceasible stay
and prop of your vertues, if continuall, nay rather inext-
inable loues, in all perpetuall addicted unto your ser-
vices, if never ceasing and tormenting griece uncertainlie
caried by a hazardous expectation, closed in the circle of your
gratious conceit, whether to bring unto the eares of my
soul a sweet murmur of life, or seuer sentence of a present
death, may ought at all preuale, either to move, entreat,
sue, sollicite, or perswade you, I then am the man, who
louing in my inward thoughts the dignitie of so wozthie
a creature, and prizing in deepest waight (though not to the
uttermost value) the estimate of so incomparable a beautie,
hane resolved living to hono; you, and dying never to serue
other but you, from whose delicate looks expecting no
worse acceptance, then may serue answerable to so diuine
an excellencie: I remaine

January 20.
1629.

Your most passionate, loyall,
and perpetually
deuoted,

R. F.

Her

Cupids Messenger.

7

Her Answer.

That men haue skill, and are by sundry commendable parts enabled to set forth their meaning, there needeth no other testimony then your present writing, your eloquence is far beyond the reach of my poore wit, and the multiplicite of your praises fitter for a poeticall goddesse, then to the erection of any such deesse. For my part, I shall hold them as the fancies and toyes of men, issuing from the weakest of their humors, and how farre my selfe can deserue, none better then my selfe can conceiue. Being one of so good sort, as you are, I could doe no lesse then write againe vnto you, the rather to satisfie the importunitie of your messenger, wishing such a one to your lot as might paragonise those excellencies you writ of, and answer every way to the substance of all those inestimable praises. So having your loue and your writing, (as I take it) be best fured together.

*Yours as farre as modifly
will, to answer your
curiositie,*

January 24. 1639.

E. B.

22

Another

Another Letter to his Mistris,
desiring her loue.

Good mistris I. P. I am bold, though a stranger, to make these lines messengers at this present of my good meaning towards you, wherein I goe not about by pretence of a most entice and hearty good will, which I profess to beare you, to make present surmise therewpon that on so bare an assertion you shoule immediately credit me, I praise your wezthinesse at a far greater value, and weigh your good allowance so much, as I onely desire by your favourable liking I may intreat to haue acces into you, not doubtting but by being in your presence, I shall so suffisiently by apparent proesse maintaing the efficacie of that I thinke, and give so good occasion, to deeme well of me, as you shall haue no reason to repent you, that upon so honest and louing a request you haue condiscended to my entreaty: whose health and prosperity tending as mine owne, I send you with my Letter a token of that great affection I beare you, which I pray you most heartily to accept of, and loue me so me continue,

J. E.

Yours if so you please to
accept of me.

R. M.

Wilson A

23

Her answer.

Sir, your message is to me as strange as your selfe, who are vnto me as stranger, and what your good meaning vnto me is, I know not: for guing of credit vnto your assertion, as you see me not to challenge it, so was I never hitherto of my selfe so hally to doe it, hauing oftentimes beeene taught, that of fairest speeches ensueth the foulest actions: I cannot

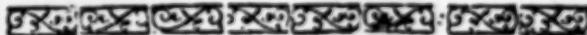
con-

Cupids Messenger. 9

condemne your purpose, because I intend the best of your dealing, and howbeit I am in no point so restrained, but that in all reasonable sort that may bee, any accesse may be granted, so when you shall by farther notice sufficiently make apparent that with modesty I may doe it, I shall bee willing so farre forth as my years and present being may minister occasion, in any thankfull requicall that may bee to yeeld my selfe vnto you. Till which time I returne your token againe, and my hearty thankes vnto you by this bearer.

*Your friend is one unacquainted
hitherto may be.*

I. P.



To a beauteous Lady vpon a
long affection.

How impossible it is to keepe heat from fire, being that very nature of the element, I referre to your best judgement, and how neate a spirit of that nature, is the loue of the heart kindled by the zye of beautie, I leau: to your kindnesse to consider: Since then such is the force of true loue, as cannot be so smothered vp in silence, but that it must burst out into words and actions, either to gaine comfort, or to suffer death, pardon (faicest of beauties) that patient that in anguish se:es ease and deny not your help in the excellency of the cure: your beautie hath moved me, your excellent feature your comely gesture, your sweete behaviour, hong all concurred to make me behappie, unlesse your hand helpe me, and though the hurt be more felt then faine, yet is it not deadly, if you be kinde: loath I am to bee a begger without desert, and yet loue will stoope a high spi-

rit, which, by the hand of due honore hath swoyne me your
true servant: in which Title, vnder heauen, shall be my
hearts greatest hono: and in the hono: of whose fauour,
shall be the height of my worlde happiness: in hope where-
as, praying to the highest Power in the heauens to blesse
you with all felicitis on earth, I rest

Your devoted, and not
to be remoued

P. E.

Her Answer.

Sir, how easie it is to quench a fire in his first kindling, ex-
perience can deliuer; in the diversity of hearty lone being
not the least that is like to doe much hurt, I wish you to take
order with your wits, lest it bring your braine to an ill com-
fort. And therefore in placing of aff. &ction, bee not too far
from discretion, lest the perswasion of selfe will, be an abuse
of a better sense. If I had skill in Physicke, I would prescribe
you helpe for your disease, but being a simple woman, you
must haue patience with my plainnette, who not knowing
how to doe you good, and vnwilling to wish you hurt, lea-
ving you to a better Paradise then in the torment of an idle
passion, I rest in what I may,

*Yours as kindly as
I finde cause.*

A. N.

To

Cupids Messenger

11

To a iudicious Gentlewoman.

Deare friend :

The flexible affect & conquest which your beauty hath wrought in my heart constrained me in your kinnesse to place the hope of my fortune : beseeching you so to equall your outward excellency within inward perfection, that faith may not have feare of favour, where humilitie shall guide the course of affection : I should esteem my selfe the most vnhappy if I shoule give your eares any diffall by my suit, but if it light within the line of your liking, it shall begin the garden of my paradise : so under heaven seeking no other stet, then the guide of your grace to lead my heart to the ioy of my life : I rest, never to rest till I once rest

From Madrid.
March 16.

Yours all, or mine owne
nothing at all.

E. C.

Her Answer.

IAm sory to thinke that a shadow of dust should haue that force (in concert) to rob reason of his contents: for beautie is but a shadow, which if your eye hath found in my face, let it goe no further lest it doe wrong to my will in hurting your heart: my inside I hope is farre from disgracing any good in my outside, and both al tog ether vnhappy, if they haue beene any occasion of euill: but least I may seeme discontent either at the manner or manner of your writing, I discharge you of the burthen of that feare, by the kinde acceptation of your affection, which though I cannot answer as I would, yet, as in good reason I may, I will thinke and consider of, which if it fall out to your liking, be not vnfaithfull in your loue, in hope whereof I rest,

Tours wholly, if at all. A.B.

To

To a Lady, with whom he fell in loue seeing her
at a solemne Triumph.

When I saw you (excellent Lady) viewing the
Triumphs, looking vpon your eyes mee thought
Heaven opened to discouer a greater glory, and Angels
tylling there tooke from my iudgement all things else
done out of that blessed compasse, but mine amazement
became my death, and my death must be your Triumph,
for how euer the conflict appeared, your glances which
were the wounding weapons, strucke through my weake
sight, and flew my heart, though armed in the strongest
fort of my bosome; I am not so happy as to be a prisoner
(for there were hope) but so iinfotunate to die in despaire,
that to haue the monument of my remembrance erected in
the Temple of your pittie, is the vtmost aime my blisse
lockes to; the cruelty of faire ones hath pronounct my iudg-
ment, and saith, it is impossible to effect where they haue
not seene: Oh set me in this sorrowfull paper, (you fairest
of adored beauties) and let that sight moue affection, affec-
tion knowledge, knowledge pittie, and pittie that wokes of
the highest, which is onely to doe miracles, so shall cruelty
gire himselfe the lie, proue you a goddesse, and make mee
(the happiest of men) a trumpet of your renowme and glo-
rie: My loue is like your goodness without parallel, my
faith shall goe beyond that loue, and my seruice crowne
both with an infinite merit. This is my sacrifice, which if
you accept, (excellentest of faire beauties, and unruled
with all rich perfections) I live, if otherwise, my ioy is, I
perish by so excellent a creature.

From Dover
June 9. 1628.

Prepared to suffer.

J. S.

112

Her answar.

Sir, he that of a light blow with the eyē, makes a deadly wound at his heart, is either too vnworthily faint, or much too superstitious in the signes and planets; for mine owne part, my knowledge allures mee I am free from any such malignant influence: I confesse a weake appetiture vnguarded with iudgement, may oft stumble and receiue knockes: nay sometimes fall to vtter ruine; and to giue to that weakness the government of my fortune, were to rob my selfe of all good mens pities. In my worst mischances, the ill I cause nor, reason cannot blame me, if I cure not, since what is without me, nothing appertaines vnto mee, but you will make my beauty guiley, paore nothing, how pitifullly art thou slandered; which being a mere Chymera of imagination, hath not any thing in theo, but the strength of folly, and mans fancy; it is not a substance, for then it might be felt, let loose or restrained; it hath no certaine shape, for then all men would like one figure; nor hath it any abiding, for then it would ever bee found in its owne mansion; it is not compounded of perfitt colours, for then no man would dote of mixt deformities, nor doth it subsist of reall vertues, for then no man would wed with the vicious: to conclude, it is nothing harsh hure you, and that nothing I send to cure you: rashnesse shall not breed my repentance: your loue is too infinite, your faith too worthy, and your seruice too rich; a meaneer proportion will guard safest a meane fortune; and so wishing your great sacrifice to a greater deitie, I rest,

Your best Counseler.

Canterbury.

A. N.

6

To

To his Mistris that was of wanton and
light carriage.

Because my bois-of-love (my sometimes dearly beloved
mistris, hath made me your friend, therefore the care
of your honour shall make me your counsellor; whether it
come fasonably or no, examine your heart, that it comes
stately and with a wholesome intent, truth be my witness.
It is told me (mistris) that your actions are publiskly no-
ted: for their contumelious lewdness, and your wanton light-
ness is so matched by your beholders, that contempt is be-
come your only companion. your apparel is like your
mante, unconstant and uncomely, and daies rather ad-
miration then conseruance. toses are your studies, and bani-
ties your practice, so that making your selfe a flane to plea-
sance, you have forgotten the violence of mis-fortune. If this
be true (my dearly beloved mistris) then in this I must
perish. Since living in you, your least fall wounds both me
and mine honour: I know you are faire and young: but if
you clatch them here with vices, what will you weare in
the grave, but infamie & life eune without fel, misfortune
strikes without an alarum, and the glorie of vanitie braks
like a bubble, and leauers nothing behinde but the print of
disgraces: it is too much to be euill ancy, for the euill is ne-
ver forgotten, and it is too little not to be ever good, since
the smalllest blot daies all out of remembraunce. I would I
could as easilie excuse you, as fame is apt to accuse you: par-
don me if I be too bold in writing, it is beged by a too much
holonestie in action. the one made good, the other shall bee
gracious beyond expetition; till then give my pen leaue to
kepe my heart from breaking.

Farndon.
Apr. 1618.

c. T.

Your grieved friend,

A. Z.

He

Her Answer.

A Zeale that is kindled (my best seruante) with the false
fire of mens reports, is rather held a superstitution then
an honest devotion; for it borth wrang truth, and wounds
an innocent reputation, and those light beleuverz, which
build fach on such weake grounds, desctrue nothing but age
souminie and con tempe: if now you accete my life in your
absence, where was your iudgment when I walke in your
presence? O be not so false to the worth of your owne truthe,
to say you could not see that which all the world hath di-
eoured, or if you did, to be so blind to affect a thing van-
worthy, but it may be, absence hath begotten new thoughts,
those thoughts new affection, and that affection must needs
 finde a new quarell with old friendshyp: if it be so, your
owne course lead you. I freely confesse I am not such a beg-
ger that can weare rags, such a miser that can eate rootes, nor
so subtile to speake like a lugler, with a reed in my mouth: Truth I serue, freedom I loue, and plainnesse is my condition.
If these haue tailes you cannot relish, you must in some
other foyle feele new comfort, for mine owne part I will
be no bondslau to opinion, till I know my constaine, nor no
seruant of the time, till it be vncorrupt, and more honest.
As for my life, had it for every feather a wing, and my for-
tune double so many hazards, yet will I bring the one to
my graue with honour, and make the other ashamed with
my sufferance. I rest,

Maidstone
May. 7.

Your iniured mistris:

D. P.

C 2

A

A desperate Lover to his ~~ghandam~~ Mistris.

I shall be better in you (face) to receive my despaires
 though you return no comfort, and if in the reading
 you benchafe a sigh to my remembrance, it is a surge that
 shall make me for ever sleepe in quiet: despaire long since
 gane me meangement, and obedience onely shall make my
 death patient: (t is necessary I die say you, since fate be-
 nies me to live with you, for my selfe is such an interpositi-
 on betwixt you and your glorie, that my gricles would
 haue much of your sunne eclipsed: I know my wants,
 and that there is nothing either in my life or fortune to de-
 fuse you, onely an infinite deſſice, which but by death can
 never be ſuffered, then ſince all things ſuit with my de-
 ſpaires, be all delales with your loue (ever face from me)
 and let the world onely remembret this in my Epitaph,
 that it was not my folly, but your will, not my deſpaire,
 but truth in obedience: But ~~so~~ this is that I ſhould doe,
 not ſpeak: and the ſuſhckis in moare built for your eare,
 then your loue ſay my heart: pardon my tell-tale ſorrow,
 if rather ſpeakes things fit to be done, then done, and will
 ſooner craue the glorie in with then action, and yet the po-
 ſon of diſfaine is so violent, I know it will leaue me, and
 leaue me it ſhall, for my comforts are alreadie conuerted,
 and in that conuertion let all things but my memoria
 turne to its ſixt Chaos, and ſo loue as happy as I unfor-
 tunate:

Only in remembrances.

Northampton.
 Septemb. 6.

F. L.

No

Her Answer.

How much I stand diuided with the vnsombleness
 of your affection, my distractred writing may witness;—
 wherein I can obserue no order, because nothing in your de-
 sires holds good proportion, you bid me loose, and will not
 heare when destiny denies it, and you seeke that rule from
 me, which is quite taken out of my knowledge (dame Sir).—
 awaken vp your first wisedome, and ryse your actions on pro-
 widence, then shall you see I haue lesse power to draw on
 mine, then you to withdraw your affection: will you make
 beauty such a flau, that it must obey every gaze, or the
 poore owner so vnsfortunate, that she must be fit mate to the
 desire of any wilfull longing, then so, how much safer were
 it to be soule and fortunate! But you will dye, wots metho
 folly shold make you so impudent, to boast you dare doe
 a sinne so damnable; but I know you will dye but as actors
 dye, in one scene and reviue in the next, to make it more
 gloriouſ, thus to dye I allow you, and to such I will giue a
 ſmile for pity: to any other a charitable teare, to thinkes that
 any Gentleman shold become a traitor to Nature. Lastly,
 let me win you by the loue you boast of, never henceforth
 to follicite me, for as no relief can come from ſuch vaine
 labour, ſo nothing but great diſdaine will grow from my
 vexation: So hoping you will make that hope desperate,
 which is without all hope of vertue, I refl.

Your chaff friend.

Rowel March 7.

P. C.

A

C

A

A

A Letter of true kindnesse.

If some Nature had binne pleased to haue made my boosome transparent, your eyes shoulde see the secrets of my heart, which if it haue any happiness in the world, it is in the hope of your fauour: but amayes with the admiracion of your worth, I know not what to say of your worthinesse, but onely this, that finding the due of your deserit exceeding my capacite in commendacion, I will leave the excellencie thereof to more honourable inuention, and thinke Fortune enough fauourable, if shee prefer my service to your commandement: present I haue none worthy the sending, but the heart of my loue at your emploiment which being nothing more then what you will, I rest, ever one and the same.

Your servant.
W. W.

Her Answer.

If your speeches be led by your thoughts, it is needless to desire a transparence in your boosome, for when as the heart and the tongue agree together, then mens protestations are followed with reall performance: words of admiration trouble discretion, in construction, and eloquence in loue hath not the best commendation, inuentions are ready where fancy is studious, but where wit is vertuous, there is will gracious: your present inofit worthy of all acceptance, cannot be better required then thankfully remembred, and if conceits meet in a mutuall content, what comfort may follow, I leau to the heauens fauour, and so I rest,

Your friend.
A. W.

A Letter of counsell from a discreet mother to
her daughter newly maried.

My good daughter: thou art now going into the world,
and must leane to be a childe, and leatne to be a mo-
ther, and looke to a familie, rather then to the entertain-
ment of a friend, and yet both necessarie, in their kinds:
 finde the disposition of thy husband, and in ane wise moue
not his impatience, let thy kindnesse bind his loue, thy
vertue his constaunce, thy husbandes his commendacions:
avoid tafling gossips, yet be kind to thy neighbours, and
no stranger to thy kindred: be gentle to thy seruants and
not ouer familiar: haue an eie to thy booz, and a locke to
thy chest: haue a bit for begger, and a bone for a dog:
cheriſh the Wicke that brings home honie, and make much
of the Cocke that makes much of his Chickens, take heed
abroade of the Rite, and within of the Kat: pray to God for
his blessings on all thy proceedings, and haue a religiouse
care of thy modest government: and rather for charitie
then praise, gane relife unto the poore: if at any time thou
haft need of any good I can doe thee, be assured whilſt thou
haft a mother, thou haſt a friend: so hoping in thy kind-
nesse, thou wil take care of thy counſell, beseeching God
to bieſle thee, that I may euer haue loue of thee, with my
hearts loue, to his fation I leaue this.

Thy moſt louing mother.

R. S.

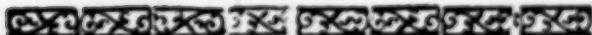
Her Answer.

My good Mother: I haue paſſed the yeares of a childe,
and know the care of a motheſ, and therefore for your
kind aduice for my cariſe I thank you, and what beneſt I
will

will make of your leisont, you shall finde in the fruit of my obseruation, I am but newly come into the world, and God knowes when I shall goe out of it; and am yet scarce warme in my house, and therefore hardly know yet how to goe through it. For my husbands humour, if he aker not his nature, I doe not doubt but wee shall live as Dous, while care and kindnesse shall continue contente; my seruants shall find me both a mistris and a friend; my neighbours no strangers, and idle golips no companion. Thus in the duty of loue, with thankes for your motherly care, in prayer to the Almighty to blesse me with his grace, and to live no longer then in his loue and yours: I take my lease, for this time, but rest during life,

Your most louing daughter.

P. E.



A Letter in case of wrong supposed to
be committed.

SIR, your Letter is more troublesome to my conceit then
answering (as I am credibly led to think) of that your
wonted most noble disposition unto me I have received.
With what supposition and unaccustomed grief I have
retained them, I referre to any one (guiltie or accused and
suspended from so high favours, as formerly by your boome-
bie to me have bene performed) simply to bee conjectured.
Long was it ere I could satisfie my selfe by any access
that might be, to profer my selfe or these humbled Letters
unto you, yet neverthelesse weighing how farre different
those now occurrents were from those your ancient favours,
I surmised with my selfe that the infigation proceeded
solely from others, hardly perchance bearing those graces
wherein

wherein I stood with you, and becoming therupon my
bittere enemies, the uniuersitie wherof stood upon me
wholly to overthrew as impugne. For which having no
other nor better meanes at this time then those submissiue
lines, I purpos them unto you as sollicitors of your former
lithing, confessing if in any waies I have erred unto you,
as I will not vtterly secluse my selfe from every error, it
was but as a young man rather by ignorance then of ma-
lice any way to be intended: as touching any other objec-
tion, let me but craue pardon to haue accesses vnto your pre-
sence, and then judge as you finde me: two waies are only
left, my accusites to my face, or mine owne simplicitie to
clearre me. This is all I require, and so muche I hope you
will not denie me: wherewith resting in due acknowledg-
ment of that your former bountie, I humble succrase, this
15 of Decemb. 1628.

Yours so commendable

M

A Letter from a Servant to his Master

Seur, my humble batis crimed, with spes, youe haue on
good milites. You may please to understand that I haue
dispatcht the busynesse unto Master C. for the monies you
sent me for, and haue given him an acquaintance for the
same, and according to your good conceit, I haue alredy
I haue bought for you twelve gallons of the best Wach, and
eighteene gallons of Claret, and fiftene yards of fine
W:ard cloath, and thirtie eis of fine Holland all which I
hope by Gods grace shall come unto your hands: I haue
sent you also herre inclosed your Bill of parcels, and their
seuerall prises.

D

J

I wrote formerly unto you for certaine commodities out of the Countrey, which I haue now received by the Carrier. Here is at this present small newes worth the writing unto you: wherefore praying unto all Almighty God for the health and prosperity of you and all yours, I humbly take my leave, and rest,

Your faichfull and ready seruant to command,

I. P.

¶ An answer of a Letter for courtesie and fauour received.

My good friend M. G. how much I am bound unto you for multitude of fauours, and especially for that you haue made choice of me, as to write your kinde and friendly Letters in my behalfe, I can no other waies expelle, than to confesse your affectionate poore friend, and will soeuer acknowledge it, as of your great hindernesse beyond any merit of mine owne, and as by duty I am bound, no day shall passe me that I will not pray to God for your health and prosperitie, and the reuolting of your daies: beseeching you to excuse me in that in person I cannot doe as I performe what I desyre, by reason at this time some halfe extraordinary will not permit me. I therefore most humblye take my leave of you, this 14. Day.

Your affectionate poore friend,

P. C.

The

Cupids Messenger. 23

The Fathers Letter against the Sonne.

The flight of your Letters and message received by your
servant, have (good Cousen) bin to me in perilling
and barking unto the same no small matter of disquiet :
not that your letters or messages for themselves are of
hauie borne at any time ill welcome to my hands, but in con-
spect of him for whom they come, so filled haue I borne long
since with the evills by him committed. I am nothing igno-
rant that of marelous and good will you framed your
speech unto me in the behalfe of my vngrazious Sonne. I
made not repeat here unto you with what fathedly care I
haue brought him up to mans estate hote like wife I sought
both into maintenace and place of credit to continue him
as a Gentleman. I placed him with a right godly and
woeshipfull Knight Sir T. H. who for my sake loued him,
and I knowe took paines to reforme him. Complaints
were infinite against him. This man could not be quiet say-
him, that mans servants he misused : this party he recei-
ued, and others hi-his wronged. Since which, too much to
be reuealed, how stubbornly in mine owne house, he im-
patiently amonst mine owne people hath he behaved him-
selfe. And bee iuse it was against Ch. St. mas, and I would
not dismiss him unburnished, I gave him for himselfe and
his man a couple of good Seldings, and twentie pound in
his pnce : he was no sooner gone twentie miles, but spent
his money at Cards and Dice, pawned his apparel, sold his
Cloaungs, and in the end comming to one of my tenants to
borrolo money, which he denied to lend him, haue sell yow-
him and beat him. Thus (loving Cousen) you see in part
his ill led life, and may thereby conceiue my grise. Men-
ding in the meane time my commendations and earnest
thanks for your care of my well being, to you and your bed-
fellow. This 20 Aug. 1618.

T. R.

D 2

Tbs

The answer.

I haue received your letter (my kind uncle) in answer
to the last letter I sent, which was the busynesse of your son.
I am very sorry that a Gentleman of your grauuty and know-
ledge in the world, and for the good estimation that the
country hath of you, that Master F. C. your sonne should
deale so unkindly with you. I know your fatherly care of
him from time to time, and how diligent, and not sparing
any cost in bringing him vp; and to place him with a gentle-
man of the best ranke in all the country was nobly done,
yet with all you might (if so you please) doe well to consider
he is your owne sonne, and if you looke into your owne
youth, you shall finde these were your youthfull traynes,
and to much the more to bee borne withall, and time and
age will tame all these things in an ingenuous and witty
Gentleman. I desire you for my sake retaine him kindly in-
to your fauour this once more, for he hath (vpon the reputa-
tion of a Gentleman) promised never to doe the like enormi-
ties, but to live as a most dutifull and louing sonne: and
for the same I dare passe my credit. I pray you entertaine
him respectfullie, and I will ever remaine,

Your loving kinman.

T. F.

To

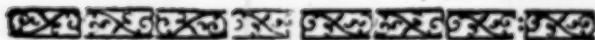
To his mistress (*quondam*) having spent all his meane
upon her in prospere, he being imprisoned
she forfakes him.

If my paper were made of the skins of croaking Toades,
or speckled adders, my inke of the blood of Scorpions,
my penne pluckt from the scratche-bones wings, they were
but fit instrumentes to write unto her, that art more be-
nevous, more poisonous, more ominous, then the worst of
these: for doe but descend into the depth of thy guilty con-
science, and see how manie oaths, promises, and verie
protestations, nay millions of oathes hast thou swoyne thy
foulitie unto me, which one day will witnessse against
thee. If I should speake with the voice of Pandakes, as
so loud as the noise of the summers thunder, yet could I
not proclaine unto the world thy infinite basenesse; I
being so storne and constant unto thee when I swomme in
the golden flouds of prosperitie, then walk thou (as often
thou didst protest) storne and constant unto me. But when
the water began to ebbe, and my shipp ran on ground, then
(like thy selfe, thou forlookest me) At first thy loue was as
hot to me as an Italian to a wench of sistene, but when
my gold was spent and consumed, then thy loue grew as
cold to me as a fishmongers fingers are in a great frost.
Doe not think I write this unto thee to be a meanes to
helpe me in this my great distresse and imprisonment: for
know thou though all my friends haue forsaken me, nay
though dea' h, griefe, affliction, and all the miseries that
possibly can befall a miserable man in this wretched world
while he liueth here, and all these grieses doe euerie minute
torment me, yet I had rather fall by their sover, then rise
by thy assistance, so hatfull, griesous, so loathsome, so
febious and so incomparably abominable is thy very name
unto me.

Leprosie compared to this, is all health, and all manner of infection but a flea-biting, and all manner of diseases, though they "ere fetcht from twentie Hospitals, were but like the fit of an Ague: for thou art all Leprosie, all diseases, for neither thy bodie nor thy soule art sicke, thy body from the disease of shame and disgrace of the world, nor thy soule sicke from the sicknesse of sinne. God amend and pardon this.

Once thy friend.

I. P.



To his friend lying long sickle.

My worthy friend Master Prince: though the distance of place be such, that we cannot heare one another, you in the center of the Kingdome (London) I at Yorke, yet you shall see me in my Letter, my tongue, my penne, my heart, are all your seruants. You plainly perceiue a long lingring sicknesse will draw you to a long delirious test, where long your mind hath had his resdence. You will perceiue Fame is but smoake, metalls but drosse, pleasure but a pull with sugar. All these earthly delights if they were sound, how shott they are, fisking every day: they are but as a good day betwixt two Agues, or like Sodomes Apples, faire red outides, being handled are blache dust. I admire the faith of Mose, but presupposing his faith, I wonder not at his choice, that he preferred the afflictions of Israel to the pleasures of Egypt, and chose rather to eate the Lamb with sowe herbes, then all their flesh-pots. That God hath ginen you a vertuous wife, dutifull children, wealth in abundance, an honest estimaunce and good repute amongst your neighbours, and the generall loue of your countrey

countries where you live, are favours that look for thanks.
 Who would desire to live, that knowes his Saviour died,
 who can be a Christian and would not be like him? Could
 you be happy and not die? indeed Nature knowes not what
 she would have. Our friends of this world can neither a-
 bide vs miserable in our stay, nor happy in our departure.
 That God hath ginen you on earth, is nothing to that he
 will gine you in heaven: you are a stranger here: there at
 home. These Saints and Angels shall applaud you, there
 God himselfe will fill you with himselfe: has patience in
 all afflictions, and reade the troubles of Job, and in that
 exercize your selfe both day and night, untill God shall ei-
 ther mend or end these your daies on earth. To which
 great God and mercifull Lord I commit you, praying for
 your eternall rest.

Remaining your friend,

I. M.



A Letter wherein is recommended to a Nobleman
 from his inferiour the conditions and
 behaviour of a person.

My it please your Lordship, this Gentleman the beates
 hereof, with whom along time I have beeene acquain-
 ted, and of his qualities and good behavioare have found
 and large experient, having beeene a good time a suitor unto
 me to inow this preferment unto your Lordships seruice,
 I have now at last condicended unto, as well so that I
 know your Lordship to be now presently disfurnished of
 such a one, as also that there will hardly be preferred upon
 the sudden any one so meet as him selfe to supply that place.
 And thus much by your pardon and allowaance das I as-

sume

sure write you, that if it may please you in credit of my simple knowledge and opinion to employ him, you shall finde that, besides he is in percentage descended from such of whom I know your Lordship will have well account of, he is also learned, discreet, sober, wise, and moderate in all his actions, of great secrete, affiues trust, and well governed in all companies. Finally, a man so meet and to this present turne so apt and necessarie, as I cannot easily imagine how you may be serued better. Pleaseth your Lordship the rather, for the great good will I heare him, and humblye duty I owe unto you, to accept, employ, and account of him: I nothing doubt but your Lordship having by such meanes given credit to my choice, shall finde him such as for whose good seruice you shall have further occasion to think well of me for him. Whether of nothing doubtting, I doe refferre both him and my selfe, in all humblenes to your best and most favourable opinion. From my house in Arthingworth, this 5 of June.

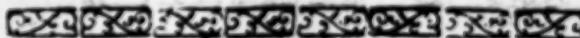
The Answer.

After my hearty commendations vnto you, Sithence as the receipt of your last letters and commendations of M^r. R. into my seruice, I haue had small occasion either to write or to send vnto you till this present; and for as much as vpon your certaine notice deliuered vnto me in fauour of his preferment, I held my selfe so well assuied in all things of his behaviour, as I doubted not therupon to receiue him into place of greatest fidelity, I haue thought good hereby to let you vnderstand, what great pleasure I haue taken in his diligent attendance, assuring you, for many vnxpected qualities, which I haue proued to be in him, and that with so good affection as that I intend not omit any thing that may tend to his aduancement. In beholding of him often-times, methinkes he many waies doth resemble his father, who is found true I doe suppose might haue beeene enterained

Cupids Messenger. 29

ned with the best for his well deserving: this bearer shall informe you of two spaciall causes concerning my affaires in the countrie, whom I doe pray you to conference with, and to affrd him your travell for his present dispatch, which I will not fail: heartily to requite vnto you. For your care had of my want^s, and diligent supply of such a one, I doe many times thanke you, and haue promised in my selfe to become a debter vnto you. And even so I bid you heartily farewell.

From the Court this 5. of
May, 1628.



A merry Letter to his friend in London.

Heroicall spirit: I have received your Epistle of alaetis, and remaine
much indebted to your kind heart for touchyng the
poore countrie of waines so much of the labours of your poore
to decease slow-footed time wchall: Thanks unto the
Almighty, I have had my health indifferent well since my
comming downe: onely the separation of my second selfe
hath bene a continuall sicknesse unto me: to remeche whch
I have hitherto found out no better way then to call for a
cup of Hubinclar, to helpe to exhilarate and revivese my
fatigued sprigs. The knicolats are heris barren of any
neweltie wchall the presenting to your curiositie understand-
ing, but doe presense out of the boundes of your armes
that you that live at the wels head will be pleased to bome
safe vs your poore friendes a report by your Letters, at least
of such Exchange newes as passeth currant amongst you,
which we shall take as a speciall fauour from you and studie
how to remeche. We are at this present putting foot
into the sh: top, and riving some dozen horse of vs to a ma-
ritime coast, where there will be provided for vs all the car-

ties for fish the sea can afford, where I will not bee un-mindfull to remember all your healths in a full ocean. In the meane time commending my love to my loving sister your wife, with your worshippe selfe and all our sturts, I wish you all true happinesse suitable to a daunc disposition, and will ever rest,

Your affued h.ung
Brother.
R. S.



A Letter gratulatoris.

Good M^r. P.

I am yet to learne the phrase and method how to write to so beneficent a friend as your selfe, to whom I stand oblige more by desrt then I can answer with requitall, and more in affection then I am able to merit: a p[ro]p[ri]etary it is into which I am easlie and often (as it were) precipitated, and out of which to raise my selfe fortune only hath disabled me, who if with her gifts she had supplied my wants, and given me competent wealth to the stardome of my will: my honest heart should not be debtor to the hand of any, nor should my disabilitie curbe the scope of my affection: but fasing twishes are but vaine, I pray you accept those my lines as tokens of the remuneration of my thanks and the acknowledgement of the love of

Your humble seruante.

D. P.

A

A Letter to his silent friend.

You are happily innocent (dearest friend) what pains I am in, and with what trouble I spend my idlome
daies, through your paccimoniousnesse, and sparing of a
little ink and paper: Is it not enough that I am deprived
of your sight, but I must be also unsaluted by your Letters,
one of them alone both too weightily oppresse me with sa-
tisfaction, and overwhelme my heart with disquietnesse. No
place hath brought a separation betweene our bodies, will
you permit also that a few daies absence shall banis each
others remembrance in the Lethean houses of oblivion;
oh be not so injurious unto sacred friendship, which is the
greatest joy allotted unto you tall men in all the Universitie:
I haue got the start of you in writing, but I hope I shal
not need to send you anie more expeditiate Letter for
your slacknesse in this kind. For the sound state of my busi-
nesse I am well, yet I cannot be said to be perfectly well, be-
ing (as I am) so solicitous for your welfare, and conser-
tant of your health, who doth abundantly meane.

Farewell.

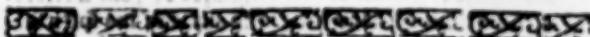
Animæ dimidium eum.

L. M.

Your affeker, excusing his not writing.

Let the multitude of my businesse and my want of bodily health, and debilitie, plead my excuse with you for my remissenesse in writing. The drift of these present lines is to apologize for that I writ to you no sooner, and to enquire of your health and welfare. Compare not, nor doe not thinke my loue as little as my writing, for I protest vaineidly, that if I may sted you in any kind, or if my meanes can procure any thing to make a clearer manifestation of my

manifold love, you shall assuredly find whensoever any occasion shall offer it selfe to you, to make small what g-er interest you haue in me and my best affection, I ceastr, ever ~~affectionately~~ (affectionately) bidding you adieu and ~~desiring~~ you to accept you always the most dutiful friend and servant. E. 2
to you always the most dutiful friend and servant. E. 2
W.W.



A Letter expostulatory for breach of promise.

I had bimeane honestie in you to have given me a
spedig breiali, then not to perform what you so constant-
ly promised me, for then you had not injured me, because
you had not owed me any thing. Promise is debt : for I
yet hope, you are none of the number of those men who
thinks promises doe not bind them unto performance : this
is my beleife of you yet, it is in your power to make me
bold as alter my opinion. I only desire thus much of you,
if you will not doe me that good seruice, yet leau e doing me
inurie : sed me not with imp: efficient words, but bid me
not trust any longer to baine hopes. In brieve, you shall
much oblige me by being that kinonesse, by omission thereof
of you shall make me muse at the lache of your fidelitie, and
at your carriellenesse to incurre the reprost and infamie of a
dub honest man.

Your sincere friend.

H, G,



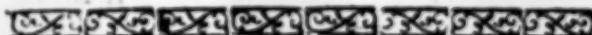
To his friend false to poverty.

If your wealth had been the foundation of my love, I
spend now cease to love, because you are no longer rich,
but

but shoud I now so erre, I shoulde shew my selfe to haue
burne unto you in your prosperitie not a friend, but (like
unto the rest that haue decelinquished you in your power-
tie) a mere flatterer: wherfor hony during the summe
time the ~~strangalitess~~ Rocke to our honestie, we may obserue
howe spide will be fure to get into the burns that is emplo-
yed with corne, and whiles the pot hath anis honestie to
hould keeping the gies away: but care is the friendshippie
which lieth not in the probation time of abusitie. We
shoule that pease comfort of abusitie, pitie, I lend you the
summe of twentie pence, which so long make use of till
time, the mother of mutations, increase your flase with
a proportion able to make repayment to.

Your friend to his
abilitie.

I. R.



A Letter of a Gentlewoman to a Gentleman with
whom she fell in loue.

If ever I could wish my selfe unhappy (most heveth his Sr.)
I as my well being taken from me, I call truthe and my
sometimes modestie to witnesse, it is now: not that I haue
found you, but that I am forced thus to sake you. Call to
mind (faire, and I hope vertuous Sir) some haire and
violent women, taken with the loue of their owne fathers,
as was Michal, or exceedingly pursuing their selfe hap-
pier, as was Babilis: so my affection will appearre more mo-
dest, and my suite more pardonable: I dearely loue you,
(and in so saying me thinkes the gods blish to heare me,)
who in the strictest lawes of deuise are most worthy to be
loued, whose vertues might inflame a flunne, and excel-

Contest qualities take the most retired : If I have (as I know too well I haue) contrarie to the nature and custome of Virgins, our shot my selfe in my violent passions, par-
don her that had rather die then make it knowne, yet chuse rather to make it knowne, then not enjoy you so desired, and sacre more mortallie to be desired. If you were acquainted what afflictions I suffer in my discouery, yet fearing all well not sacre, you will, I hope, rather incline to pitie, then disdaine: little will the death of a silly may-
den answere the triumph of your beautie, and the overthrow of my credit lesse benefit your vertue. Raise me from the
one by your loue, & allise me from the other by your secre-
sie : whilst I will euer remaine a most constant votarie
to all your perfections, blessing the parents that left behind
them such an issue.

Althorp. May 22.

Never leise her owne.

R. D.

His Answer.

How happy may I account my selfe (sweetest of crea-
tures, and beautifullest of women) that hauing bound
my selfe in the search and puruite of a iewell, haue it now of-
fered and giuen into my hands, farre above my expectation;
farre transcending my hopes, I accept it as louingly, as you
freely bestow it, and will account it no lesse deare and per-
tious, then if much time and long labour had beeene the pur-
chase of it, esteeming it a blessing throwne vpon me, by the
appointment of the highest, and suitable to my happy de-
sires. Nor shall I need to load my memory with those hor-
rid examples, to give your loue a freer and welcomer pas-
sage into the very depth of my loue and choicest desires : to
loue we were made, and by loue we are made : they onely
are without being that haue not the heauenly taste and en-
joying

Cupids Messenger.

35

soying of it, I onely deny those excellencies which you lay to my vngulty charge, it was the refelction of your owne worth (drucken strom me) which hath *Narcissus* like som-
smoured you, it was your owne image shouerne in my eies,
which hath thus captiuared you: which since you like in
so dim and dull a myrrour, I will cherish, and make much of
it onely for your sake, that you may the perfeccther for your
selfe, and the more loue me: for your loue, take all I am for
my secrete, I will nor breache it to my selfe how I attaine
this happinelle, but living and dying, rest the true honou-
rer and admirer of your worth and vertue,

Tours more than his name.

H. H.



A Letter from a Chapman in the Country to a Tradeſman in London.

My loving and kind friend M. G. you haue done me
much wrong in detaining the wares I wroght for you: I
have disappointed som Gentlemen in relying upon you,
whose custome hath much advantaged me: my credit I
hope will euer be above that value: and my dealing for
much more yearly betwene vs might without other cir-
cumstances therein haue satisfied you: I must tell you
plaine, in the countie there are many good men, whose
ſtates are knowne to be ſufficient, which cannot ſafe
money upon their credit in an instant: we want a common
banke with vs which might furnish vs ſuddenly and tho-
towly: Brokers trade not here, nor Glouceters take their
place, but in Summer for their recreation: thinke, friend
me an honest man, and ſo you haue much cauſe to thinkke:
confident in which, though my estate were brittle, (as I

1111

thankē ("od) I know it is sure : you may be armē, I will never fail nez deceiue you. I trēe not beyond my com-
paſſe, neither make a ſure foundation out of other mens
traine, but content with a little, leaving a bleſſing to my
chiſen, and a good memoſie amonſt my neighbours. Let
me heare from you concerning the cauſe of this breach, and
a note of the reckoning betwene vs, which I will make
even, and rather reſt honest then rich.

Septemb. 6.

Your true friend as you
ſhall vſe me,

L. M.

The Anſwer.

Mafter M. truly it much grieues me you were ſo diſap-
pointed, and the negligēce of my man went not a-
way vnpunished, by whole default the Carrier went with-
out them : beleue me on my word, and I account my ſelue
happier in being a master of that, then in much riches, no fear
of payment, nor leaſt doubt of your estate was any hindrance
to it : I haue well knowne you by others, and haue had ſo
much experience of you my ſelue, that you ſhall ſooner want
occaſion for wares, then I confidence to truſt you : your
neighbours ſpeake much good of you, and all men that
know you give you a faire report, which makes me happie
both in your cuſtome and friendſhip. If ſinifer occaſions
ſhall any time happen (as while we are here they are inci-
dent vnto v-) I ſhall rather pitte your fortunes then call in
queſtion your faire dealings. And know we are all men accountrable
every instant for all our poſſeſſions. The Carrier
this weeke brings thofe commodities, and better and more
vendible you nevēr had of me; and I verily beleue the
Gentleman will think them ſelves happily repaid in the hay
with the exceeding goodneſſe and laſtingneſſe of the wares.

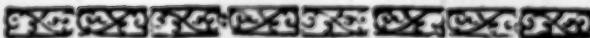
For

Cupids Messenger. 37

For your reckonings at m're leisure I will peruse and send
them, in whose place receive my kind commendations, and
encreas for my mans carelesnesse, I bid you most heartily
farewell.

Your friend as you knew.

I. G.



A Letter of thankfulness for kindness shewed to his Sonne.

Se, the fauours you have alreadie done me, are of such
Serten and usefull, that I shall never be at quiet; untill I
have in the same requitall of them. I am ashamed you
should be thus continually troubled with a sonne of mine,
whom I have charged to obey you in al things as my selfe,
and I vs to you doe so much as haue a carefull hand over
him, as if you were his father, as for your onely childe: A
kindly and heartlie thake you for the apparel you haue
made him in ely, which is decent, comely, and profitable,
and the monies you haue said to him: you may accommo-
date him with the rest if you thinke it fittinge: for my part
I give you all power and authoritie ouer him, so long you
are pleased to take the trouble upon you. So wishing but
to met with some good occasion that may lie in my poore
power, to acknowledge how much I am beholding unto
you, I for this time commit you to the protection of the Al-
mighty. Resting

Your assur'd loving
friend,

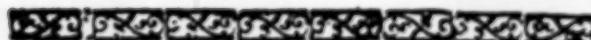
D. R.

The Answer.

Mister B. I haue receiued your Letter concerning your son. Sir, for any fauour I can doe you, either in this or any other, I shall be right willing, knowing how much from time to time I and mine are bounden vnto you. And assure your selfe it shall be no trouble vnto me to vse the best of my counsell and care ouer him. For his apparell, it will keepe him warme, I know, which is the principall thing I assay at, and I hope pleasing to him and his friends. The other money I shall deliuer him as I shal see good both for himselfe to vse, and the credit of you his father. Moreouer (Sir) he is to me very dutifull and louing, by which he shallose nothing in my care of his welfare, and hee very well spends his time at Schoole, and to good purpose I hope; wherin I doubt not you shal haue great comfort. He behaueth himselfe so well by his good demeanure to all, that he is generally beloued of all my neighbours. For my power and authority ouer him, I will imploy my selfe onely for his good, and your fatherly care committed to me. And so with a thousand commendacions I commit you to God.

Your friend,

I.D.



A Letter to his Mistresse in the Country that desired newes from the Cittie.

Most excellent mistris, your command (which is to me a lawe) binds me to obey you, and though the task be infinite hard to containe so great a beast in so little pa-
per yet for your satisfaction, I will delineate to life the
p^{ro}p^{ri}e.

proposition of some of his members. It is newes you desir-
g beliue me (faire one) since I came into the Cittie, I have
not seene or heard any thing old; even from the Capitoll,
to the Cottage, all things are in their new garments, the
Court hath new favourites, the Cittie a new Senate, and
the Common-wealth new officers: the first are as great as
good, the second are as rich as wise, and the thirde as a-
full as iust: Men are new, so; where they shoule loue they
feare, women are new, so; where they shoule honor they
sabote, and children are new, so; where they shoule rene-
rence they astonish, Costumes and manners are new, so
the poore daily feed the rich, the rich cozen the great, and
the great make scouls of the good ones. The fashions
though they were never old, are now never then euer,
so; in man and woman there is not a point to chose betwixt
the sexes, the one hath descended so much downward, and
the other ascended so much upward, that met in one circle
they are both now trussed up together without difference:
Apparell that was made to couer, is now made to discouer
folly and lewdnesse, and they are fonest that are nearest to
the naked Anatomic: Discourse is new, so; wise men talk
of their wealth, learned men of thair deceit, and great men
of vanitie, Old men like old Wolines boast of thair prepes
past, middle age like Lyons talk of that which is in their
powers, and chidren like dogs barke of the reuenges which
shall be: Our Citizens like Asses are prouide of rich bnt-
thens, and like Apes, ioy in pyde trapping, and our gal-
lants like Bare-bryers hawles braggs how much drynks
they can carrie. To conclude, all things are so new, that
even vertue her selfe is despised in old garments, and he
that keepeh any phasse of his sozafathers, is but a rude
speaker, so; today Hie mulier, is now the purer and truer
Latine. Thus (my deare Mistresse) you haue the newe
newes of the season, which I wote rather to haue you in
your old way of vertue, then to lose your saile in the folly
of imitation, I know your goodnessse, and holme true a re-
warder

40 Cupids Messenger.

Wherof it is of its owne merite. vellie vpon it ever, it will
make you end happy, and my life so fortunate, that am the
servant of so great a perfection.

T.W.

Her Answer.

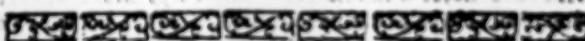
You haue sent me (worthy servant) my desire backe with
so great an interest, that I stand two wayes fearefull how
to receive it, either to incurre the suspition of too greedy an
inquiry, or the envy of a weake nature, that is pleased with
detraction: from both whch I am free, in as much as my
ayme is held within the leuell of modesty. I confesse, the
parts you haue given mee may belong to a beſt, or rather
Mouſter, for the ſhape hath little proportion: yet I haue
heard of excellent Painters which haue made curiuſ peeces
of perspective, that beheld with a liberall eye on the plaine
Table, hath appeared ug'y and moſt deformed, but the ſight
ſtrained and drawne into a more ſeuer and narrow compaſſe it hath beene beaſtfull, and in the glory of the beſt
perfection: ſuch, I feare, was the picture from whom you
tooke your copie, and looking vpon it the wrong way, you
ſaw the lines, but not the beaſtie. I doe confesse, the world
is olde, yet not ſo olde but it may continue to weare out ma-
ny new garments. Age makes it ſubiect to ſickneſſe and infir-
mitie, and what better defence then warme and ſound cloa-
thing? Sickneſſe brings corruption, and ill ſauour, what
better preuention then much ſhift and many new things? fo
that I doubtledy these nouelties which you diſlike are but to
cure ſomething in the world that is halwholeſome. Agrine,
I haue ſeen an Italian Comely, coniſting of a louer, a wi-
man, a zany or foole, and a diuill, and to it I my falſon the
world, for thars the ſlage, the people the actors, each degrae
haue their iarie and their diuill, Now if the zany will ſteale
his maſters apparell, and make betweene vice and vertue no
diſce-

Cupids Messenger.

41

difference; but not the discretion of the master, if it deuise new taision, till either the foolish amy be tyred, or the deuill for his pride fetch him away, and conclude the enter-
lude. This (my beff servant) you may apply at your pleasure, for mine innocence hath caught me that charme that to
accuse any of that crime I would not my selfe be guilty; nor
is my deuise an argument to draw on your silence, but rather
a motiue to make you more liberall, in bestowing on
me the rest of your collections; in which doubt not my am-
bition, since no inchauncement can make mee forgo to ples-
sure me, faire ever worthy to be your Mistres.

M. S.



A wooing and comfortable letter to a noble widow
that had newly lost her husband.

THough (my noble Wifew) I am the last that sent you
comfort, yet was I the first that felt your anguyl, and
will be the readiest of all men to sette you in your trouble:
you have lost a dearely desir'd husband, and found an infinit
way to grieve, the one is the act of fate, and cannot be pre-
vented, the other is the worke of Nature, and by wifewise
must be corrected: Rememb're (faire Wifew) who is gone
(a good man) to whom he is gone, to a good God, and fren
whom (from a wicked World, and worse people) and
you shall find more cauile to prauertheaven for his happines
then to murmur for your losse of comort: a good man dies
to live, theres your say, an ill man lives to die, theres (the
anguyl: the iores of mariage should her wait in Table,
bookes, not upon paper, that Wifewes might blot and
rubbe out the writing, for they ought not to remember the
delights past, but to meditate on pleasures to come, not to
marke for eternitie, but ouking the 'will of heauen, neither

F 3

hauie

hane you lost any thing, soz her was but a treasure lent you, and to grieve at the repayment were to wrong your goodnesse with ingratitude. Believe me Sparam, were your care in my hands, as your griefe is at my heart, neither should your anguish hurt you, nor the memory of your loss survive a moment, but it is in heauen, and your wisedome, couple them together by yalding to prouidence, and you shall see your consolac[i]on now upon you in a new tyde, you haue reputed me your friend, and shap'd your best actions by my counsels, you were never moze weake then now because alone, no; did you euer stand in moze need, because many assaults are prepared against you, to keepe you then in perfect safetie, please you make me of a tryed friend, a true husband, of a faithfull counseller, a profitabe Ruler, and of an able helpe a devout servant, I doubt not but you shall finde that armes against all necessities, which shall both guard you against iniurie, and bring you much honour, my character you know best, soz I am no stranger, and my zeale you may judge by my former seruices, if they appeare sanctisles before you, there will be no let but cencouraunce, which to countenance against vertue, were to be guiltie of soule superstition: you are wise, and that wisedome I make my advocate, if he appoynt me worthy to be yours, my faith shall make me your fittest servant among the living.

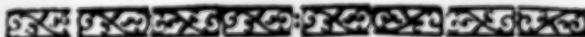
F. R.

Her Answer.

Sir, had the comforts you sent me come in a true wedd[ing] garment, pure and of one entire stoffe: I could not haue chosen but receiuied it as the rest of your chaste counsels, and feasted on it with my daily meditation, but being so disorderly patcht, I can neither beleue it is yours, nor affect that which is so vacomely, you haue sent me delicate gilt pills,

pill, where though the gold be more then the poison, yet in this potion enough to confound; therefore as much as with faterie I may rareigne (for your anciente friendshipp) I will keepe and studie, the selfe pardon me to returne you, not out of malice to your wish, but gracie at your folly, you haue told me so well the excellency of my loue, that it were madnesse in me to runne into a second hazard, and how ever you would take from widowers, the blisse of remembrance, yet deare Sir know that I can never forger this maxime, *that the death of a good husband ought not to take away the love of a shafe wife.* To conclude, what you desire is not in my power to grant, for all my loue I haue feare with him to the graue, whom I haue lost, & to hold me without that potion, were to grasp a cloud that would bring froth a Centaure; yet from thence should either Fate, or my follies deliuer it, I could not finde any more worthy then your selfe to keepe it; but the first is too constant, and the latter I hope shall never so farre rule me: Therefore being as you were a chaste counsellor, and no seducer, you shall haide mee as you haue done a faithfull Cabinet full of your goodnesse.

E. L.



Another to the same purpose.

Much honoured Mistres.

The never-ceasing streams of your gratiouse kindenes-
ses, hath by the often thinking on their due defecuings
profoundly imbosomed themselves in my gratesfull affecti-
on, which no concle of tedious time can extenuate, nor the
longest absence by distance haue power to diminish. But
ab most kinde metter of all respect, whose good will I esti-
mate as my greatest enrichment, although the condigne
requitall of such your rare courtesies lye not in the compass
and

and p[re]cinct of my poore palmer, whose tenacity is not able to pay indebted and exceeding tribute: yet how willing my mind is, and how inermeasurable my desires, this illustre Cupid will testifie. which deuid of elegancies, yet full fraught with the viseigned profection of my lone promiseth the imployment of my vittermost powers in all seruicable endeavors, if all that I can doe may but deuy one mite of your invaluablie courtesies. Command my seruice, there is not any thing so great that I wil shjink, or so small that I wil dislaine to effectuate for your sake, having vowed to dye before any word issuing from your lips shall come in vaine.

But if it I shd[ould] deuy too much time from your mo[re] serious affaires, in all humilitie I take my leave.

Yours vnfainedly.

P.Q.

Her Answer.

Though I am far from vanity to esteeme my selfe worth they of the stile or beauty, yet I see not how to excuse your sinister opinion, that would thereto annexe so great an inconuenience: for it seemes (if things might be ordered by your mind) you would have beauty and loue to be incompable companions: oh grosse & oh absurd wch, and n oft excretable p[re]f[er]ition against beauty and loue! Then any vitious, deformed or beggery creature, being but conducted by good fortune to the view of some rare Virgin, this unworthynelle must not onely be enterained, but hee that rather deterred to be hisled away with disdaine, n[on] will straight bee made the owner and Lord of her loue: Nor shal it be in her power so queare, wch to the presumption of ind[ist]inguish[ing] her, or to make her election of a dectruing personage, to honour her with her gracious fauour.

But

Cupids Messenger. 45

But I hope sir, being thus clearly conuinced, you will
confesse and make recantation of your error, I rest as I haue
reason.

Yours not so vie,
S. M,



A Letter of discontent after the falling out of Lovers.

Most discourceous and painted friend :

IT is the custome of Lovers after the breach of their
league and amitie, to send backe those gratuities which
formerly passed as tokens of their naturall affections : you
have taken vp the saffion, and belike me I abhorre any
longer to haue nearneſſe with one of your qualifikation,
who for mere trifles can diſſolve the knot of friendſhip, and
thaks hands trithſamiliaritie. For I know that your in-
neſſe which was ſometime deare in my thoughts, is now
abhorred ſaying that the ſimilitude and flattery of affection
(then which there is nothing ought by men more religiouſly
to be obſerued) you haue ſo cauſeſlē brought to anihilati-
on. I may parallel my preſent condition to the ſtate of
the Dunne when pitchy clouds which enuironing him
round about, ſeme to extinguiſh his ſplendor, but tis the
perfector of all terreftriall things, may in due ſeason im-
part a luſter corespondent to my hopes, and ſutable to my
diſpoſition : till when I will ſcorne the blaſts of aduertiſt-
y, and haue all thofe who haue little or no meriſts, are con-
volved by the diſpensation of the owly-eye goddesſe For-
tune with large poſſeſſions : howeuer if I can ſind no beſter
to conuerte and ſpend my time withall then your ſelfe,
I will turne Morus and for euer haue the ſociety of men :
but haueing a better opinion of the generallity, for your paſt
I caſhier you with this Vnknowne vale, and reſt,

A stranger. A. B.

G

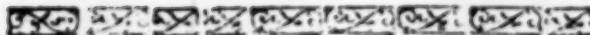
To

Howe bramboyle am I good
To his angry Mistress.

A to the doctring of the Sunne brings a generall darknesse and discouerthe, so the deficiencie and absence of your shining and gloriouse favour hath ouercovered me with cloake of care. But as the Sunnes heavenly essence by the course of Nature is daily renewed, so here I humblye sue that your wondre gracieus aspect may refreue in your countenance, to solace the dolefull heart of your servant with bisittide of long intermitted alacrity, it will be
deid to your great commendation, when the world shall understand that your heart is of ware, not inexorable and of a stony and adamantine constitution, hoping that you
will be as ready compassionatly to grant as I doe subm
blye implore the renounation of your loue, I rest,

Yours in vauerable
affection.

R. S.



A Letter from an Apprenice in London, to his
father in the Country.

My humble dutie remembred good father unto you
and my mother. Having the opportunitie of this
bearer, I thought good to extelle you of my present being,
giving you to understand that I am, I thankes God, and
you, in good health, and well wellplaced here in London,
wher I am in hope to continue my here being to some pro
fable and good purpose: I haue birth me in good sorte,
and I want nothing that appertaineth to such a one as my
selfe. I trull you shall haue my vynes, and eke a few penes
passe, I doubt not but so to behau me selfe that I shall well
deservus

Cupids Messenger. 47

desirous this good liking that shal be longe agayn me to
and further credit at his bands and entercours about his
busynesse. I hope you and my mother and all our friends
in the countrey are in good health at the present tyme will
invite unto my master as occasion serveth and shal be done
for his good usage: and if you can to remember him with
some good conuenient token from the countrey. Thus deliv-
ering your daily blessings, and with a recommendation of
my humble dutie unto you both, I take my leave.

London. Your loving and obedient
son to command,

A Letter from a husband to his wife.

Good wife, consideringe my hastie departure from you,
and my childegome, my hope is that you will have
that appertayneth. I have left manie things to you by reason
of the inaduenesse of my tourney, which I sende vpon you
good regard to be ordered, as namely the chayre of my
wants, and the disposition of some other affaires and busi-
nesses. Yet shall reine she w your selfe a discret and care-
full wife, if in my absence you will take vpon you to be in
my place. Regard and consider with your selfe, that ser-
uants are negligent and carelesse, and if the master forget
his owne profit, they are as readie as others to share with
his gaines. Your painfull attendance to oure looke them,
shall straine their labours to my usynge, your desirous to see to
them, shall worke their usynge to my well desiruing. You
must now a little forgoe neigbours, and walking far
companie, considering the old proverbe, that when the Cat

is a iacy, the Spouse will you play : If Master and Dame
 have both continued abience, seruants fall a waisting, and
 doe what they list. You know good wife, I haue now ta-
 ken a great charge of late vpon me, which with some care-
 ful looking to may turne to gear. Let it not be greevous
 vnto you, my thinkes it haue that I thus make you par-
 taker of my charge, as I doe of my profit, for we are poore
 fellowes you know, and the charge is equall betwixt us
 both to be borne and supported. If as louing mates and
 fellowes we drake sooth together, we shall by Gods blessed
 goodness see the fruits of our labours : our children shall
 participate with us of our travells, and God shall prosper
 our endeavours. And howbeit good wife I haue euer found
 you such, as of whose care of my well being I haue no
 doubt, yet if by the importance of my charge I be driven to
 saye thus much vnto you, thinkes that in greate trust of
 your modestie, respect of your loue, and zeale to both our
 goods I haue done the same. And though no distrust re-
 mains of any one about me, yet doe I put you in mind
 what youth by too much sufferance and gowing of libertie
 may be inclined to. This is all I haue to say, and so much I
 hope as you gladly will yeld vnto. Commend mee many
 times vnto your selfe. Blesse my little ones, and remember
 me, and commend my loue to all our friends. I am Ryc
 the 3 of Feby. 1618.

Your assured louing husband.

F. G.

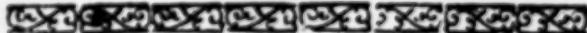
Her Answer.

Good husband, I am glad you haue at last remembred
 your selfe by this bearer to write vnto mee, that haue
 thought it very long vntill I heard from you. I doe greatly
 reioyce at the good and prosperous successe of your iourney,
 and

Cupids Messenger. 49

and chiefly, that you haue endured your trauell so well, being in so good plight and streng h of body, as I understand you are by your Letter. Wee are much beholden vnto our good friends in the country that haue givuen you so great and good entertainment: and I pray you heartily commend me vnto them. Your busynesse here goeth very well, and your seruants both dutifull and diligent about their affaires, and we haue no want but your presence, which if you would hasten hitherward, it were a comfort vnto vs all to see you, ha-
ving beene as to me it seemeth, very long absent. But Master Prince, and his friends where you are, vseth you so kindly, that I thinke you cannot well tell how to wade your selfe out from your good company. Yet good husband rememb-
rthat at last you must come home, and the sooner the better.
I referre all to your good discretion: and so command mee
most heinly vnto you. From London.

*Your ever loving and
loyall wife,*
R.G.



A Letter from one kinsman to another in London:
or any other place.

My good Cousin, I am glad to heare of your good pres-
entment in London, and that as I heare by your fa-
ther and mother, you are so well placed there, and with so
good a Master. It is no little comfort to me to understand
that you doe so resolutely and with so good a minde dispose
your selfe to your busynesse, which I gladly wish you would
continue. You must now remember, that your friends with
great care, charge, and industrie haue brought you up, and
that their intent and meaning therin was, that in expec-
tation thereof they shoulde haue joy and comfort of you in

your elder years: so which as you have nowe bequeathed
 your selfe to this place of seruice, so must you for any feare
 of hard vslage, bitternes of speech, or other mislike of taunts
 by tribulac, make a account to endure and continue. It may
 be, being yet unacquainted with the customes and vslage
 of London, you doe nowe think well of that whiche heres-
 fore may turns to discontentment. But good cozen so be it,
 you have no want of things needfull and necessarie, scame
 your selfe to forbeare all those crose matters whatsoeuer,
 and give your selfe wholly on Gods name, to the benefit
 of your seruice, you shall therein want no helpe, furthe-
 rance or encouragement on my part, and if you perfrome it
 well and honestly, you shall not want when time serach
 for an hundred pounds or two, if in the meane space I may
 see your good care of your masters busynesse, and please your
 master so: therein you shall the better please your master.
 Your friends are all well, who rejoycing in that alreadie
 they see you so well behav'd, doe daily pray to God to pro-
 sper and blesse you: and thus with my heartie commen-
 dations I bid you farewell. Farndon this 18 of May 1618.

Your louing kinman,

F.C.



A Letter to request the borrowing of an hundred pounds.

Se, I am bold in my great necessitie, under assurance
 of your forwardnesse to doe me good, to intreat your
 speciall aide and furtherance in two hings, the one where-
 of is to lend me of your wanted fauour one hundred pounds,
 the other this bester shall instruct you in, both whiche con-
 fift in your hinde and friendly care of my well being, I am
 of opinion none other then your selfe can fit the occasion,
 better

better. And truly such is the force of imprisonment, as contrarie to that you have wantedly knowne in me, my understanding is quite decayed, and soe weare with want of libertie, and where the spirits are soe vissned, it must needs follow, the memo:ie must needs found nothing but discord. In this, wiz, it is in you to doe me good, and to make me by this onely action for ever beholden unto you, whererin if I may so farre presume of your fidelitie as to assure your selfe if ever God give me libertie, to none so much as you shall be yokes in concretes. Cost me not T. A. the matter hereof requireth some haste, whereto I must hertily intreat you faire me not.

Fare ye well this 18 of December. 1618.

Your imprisoned friend,
I. S.

The Answer.

God Master I. S. needleleit were you should intreat me in that wherein you haue found me most willing, and such whous with small periwaison you may induce to a farre greater purpose then what in you last letter is required, the meilcugger I haue appointed to retayne againe to my chamber to morrow morning, at which time I will noe faile to send you your desired summe: for the other, hard will it be for me to accomplish that wherein your selfe seeme so vnperfect, for that the dullest conceit forged from the most dystempered of your imaginacions, cannot but sound farre better then a respect of my intentions any waye able to deliuer. Neuerthelesse such as it is, or (by dislike of your owne) you haue will to account of, that will I prepare to your view, and put forward to your good speed, thinking it better by the delivery of a groise deuise to satisfie the demand of a friend, then by the concealing the simplicite thereof, to be confounded vnaconscous. In conclusion,

it is lawfull for you to vse me to the uttermost, and fittest to your conformed league of amitie, that (in whatsoeuer) you should imploy me, wherein I desire you conceiue no more then such as I intend to become, and you shall assuredly finde me,

Your fauful friend.

I. P.



A Letter to his friend for breach of promise.

Master Jackson, I have abstained hitherto to come to you, partly being wearied with imposturie, soz that I thought, now two moneths being passed, I might in this space haue found a time convenient wherein to haue ended with you. Having taken this cause in hand, I would (as in good reason I thought it fit) you should determine with me vpon some conclusions whercon to rest assured, I might thenceforth know where to trust, and neither waste labour in comming to so small purpose, nor hinder my certaine busynesse by the unsteadie stay of your affaires, as alreadie I haue done. We haue talked many times, and set downe certaine limits, but to slender effect, as I neither know when to demand, nor you how to satisfie. So that depending vpon shadowes, I haue passed my time to small benefit, and you haue gone forward to little purpose. I doe pray you therefore that such meaning may assure us, as alreadie betweene us hath beeene performed. To delay me thus with nylles, as I thinke is farre frome a Gentleman, so doe I suppose you not intend it, conserning how many waies thereby I am and shall be hysped. This therefore may be the certaine meanes to satisfie us both, that you will (as on Friday last you promised) come and see the agreement betweene us performed, where-

Cupids Messenger.

35

So I pray you adverteſe your full resolution by this booke,
And ſo I bid you heartily farewell.

Arthingworth.
May 7. 1618.

Your ever affuered
louing friend,

W. M.

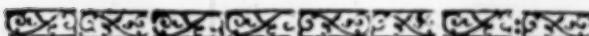
The Answer.

Good master W. M. my breach of promise is not ha-
ving vifited you with deferued requicall ſilence my
departure, may breed iufpicion and doubt of vachankfaines,
but I hope, and by hope perſume, that of your owne good
diſpoſition towards all your acquaintance, you will yeeld
vnto an approued tryall beforē you condemne. For my
part, if I ſhould not owe vneo you all honest minde and fide-
lity, I ſhould much contrary your great courtesie, and defer-
uently incurre the shame of ingratitude. You know that ha-
ving ſtrayed as I haue done out of the limits of a conuained
rule, and diſpleased ſo much thereby, as my caſe hath be-
wrayed vnto you, thofe whom by nature and dury I ought
to be awed vnto, it is reaſon that by a more diſtinct obser-
uance I make amends for the reſidue. The day appointed
I will not faile to meet to view the writings, and to make
ſome concluſion to your beſt ſatisfaction. Wherein you ſhall
perceue the honest minde of a Gentleman. My farther it
ſeemeth, though not yet by me, hath otherwife vnderſtood
how much I ſtand yoked (in all friendly leauge of amity)
vnto you, and thinketh himſelfe for all his ſons vnthrifti-
neſſe ſomewhar therin to be tyed vnto you. His meaning
is, one of theſe dayes to intreat your paines hitherward. But
howeuer deſerts be noted, or care by nature doth binde, af-
ſure your ſelfe, whiſt life leadeth a longe this earthly coarſe,
I am and will be alſo yours moſt vnfainedly and in moſt im-

H. ſire;

truly. To whom and to your good bedfellow, I most heartily
and often commend me: From Thindon, June 28. 1618.

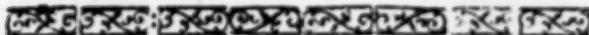
*Remarking your much bounden friend
in all good affliction, I. R.*



To his friend a Mercer.

DEAR sir, many salutations, &c. As my occasions fall
out I will presume to trouble you, grounding my bold-
nesse upon the hope of your loue and good will, I request
you to send me as much black Wattin as will make me a
fote. I am your debtor alreadie, besides in good will and
loue, a small summe, whiche for that it hath bene long be-
tained, you may conjecture it to be desperate: yet on my
credit it is as sure as any money in your purse: My intent
being honest, but my loue not such as at this time I can sa-
tisfie: Let me I expect the plenty of my purse will be
so profuse, that God permitting without fail for these and
the oþr debt you shall be fully discharged. Acknowledging
my selfe beholding, I rest

Your thankful friend, R. G.



A Letter to an unfaithfull friend.

SIR, I have ever bene so loth to thinke ill of you, that I
scarce alwaye minde alone witness against you, or those
strong presumptions that make me thinke you meane to
kepe no promises nor no friends: If you will needs have it
so, let our acquaintance now grow sickly, and die privatel-
y, lest I be blamed for trusting, and you for deceiving so
great a truse. For since our loue is grown into so desperate a

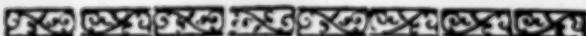
L.

Cupids Messenger.

55

Lethargie, I will not wake it, for I had rather it should passe away in a trance, and the remembrance thereof never hereafter to be mentioned: What your friendship was I cannot tell, but I am assured to the view it was fit for greater constellies then I required: what mine alone was judge when you haue most need of a friend. Neither will I tell you what a sea of misfortune your breach of promises hath let in upon me: but Ile bid you now and ever fare well, and with my letter conclude all rites of love betwixt you and me, and rest

No longer your friend, I. B.



A Letter for admittance into seruice.

H^onorable sir: I haue ever bene so addicte to fol-
low you, that in mine alone opinion I am an old es-
tainer of yours: so I am within a degré of a householde
seruant, which is all the promotion that by the intercession
of this Letter I strive to come to. But I see so many drops
directed that way, that I may perhaps come too late, yet
I hope your number is not full, though it be great, and I
suppose all are not invited that goe: but some intrude. I will
take it for extreme bountie to be admitted within your
gates: what I doe is prest by no necessity, but to save my
longing, and to satisfie my desires, which a far off haue
ever serued you. Once I thought to haue mooved this suit
by friends, but that way I was afraid it might miscarie:
and I was not verie willing it should succede, being loth
to intangle my selfe in obligations, to other men, when I
haue to passe my selfe ouer unto you. so I thought best to
waite, so to speake had bene too bold. So in hope at the
leaste of a pardone, I rest as far as in me lies,

Your humble seruant,

B. I.

H 1

To

To his love upon a long and fruitless affection.

IT is the property of none but of a faint-hearted soldier
to decaysing a caprice or two to retire from assault, and
to give over his enterprise: when enim one ought to be
constant perseverance, that he may wokre the accomplish-
ment of his desires. The long infelicitie of my suit
hath not made me weary of your service, though since I
first fell in love with you (O might the examples incite
you no longer to retard your affection) the sun hath gone
about the world, and given a new life to all things which
the tempestuous winter had left torpid: the wayfull Mer-
chant hath made a rich returne, and the laborious husband-
man hath cramm'd his barnes with the plenteous crop of
the ever fruitfull earth: Every one hath his hope, only
my life was unfortunate then all the rest, in this remain-
ing of time have not had any successe. 3 am you for per-
spective in misfortune: it rests in you with the sympathy of af-
fection to make me parceller in felicity, of which I will ne-
ver despair, there bring no heart that is more infinitely
affected toward you then the heart of

Your truest seruant, E. I.



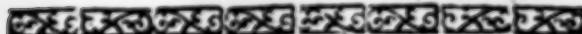
To his sweet heart in the Country.

Sole minister of my affections:

Though in London where I note am many singular
beauties are daily obvious to my sight, yet I beseech
you not to charge me unframed lines with flattery, if in the
full collaudation of your owne unparallel'd pulchritude I
prefer your unmatchable forme before the rarest of their
composures: Their somonies come as farre ofte of yours

as the splendor of the twinkling stars comes short of the all-enlightening radiance of the sun beams, and they all are as far your inferior in the vanishing gifts of Nature, as the wretched pibble is inferior to the mouth of the most high prized Carbuncle. To which outward embelishments when I muse in my mind (and no house passeth without commemoration of your perfections) how sweetly you have united all internal graces, then am I distract with griefs for my absence, and though my unseemly mien be inseparably with you, yet I curse the distance of place which becommes me of all comfort, because it distoynes me from your presence, which till I enjoy, all joy is banished out of my breast, and I have ginen griefe a free dominion in me, I cannot say I rest, but I remaine,

Your entire wellall, I. S.



A young mans Letter to his enamoured mistris.

Fairest of a thousand :

If you were not absainte, I woulde not be thus resolute: I onely to loue you in whom I hold onely loue; this louing: your beaute tells mine eye, and your kindnesse putteth my heart of your goodnesse so, if you were yronde, I shoulde disbaine you, and if you were not faire I woulde not affect you: now, if you know the one true in your selfe, beloue the other in me, and louing not your selfe, in not doing me right: Greedynesse and viceynesse are two, and belaynes are the hindrances of happiness; to begre your patience with importunitie I will not, and yet to givre over my suit I cannot: and therfore knowinge your iudgement sufficient to understand your owne good, I hope to finde your dispellition not inclinde to hurt him, who remaineth,

Your selfe you will, and

when you will, T. D.

will be much easier and of greater helpe to me to write to you
than you can do to me. *Herblands answer.* And you will be
constrained to write, and understand what I say, and then
you will be more easie to write to me.

MY worthy friend, how long I have loued you, was
from the first instant that I beheld you: how much I
desirous you, I would I could tell you: how dearely I will
loue you, my selfe and causes shall truly make knowne unto
you: and if under heauen I may find such happynesse on the
earth as to be regarded in your fauour, I will thinke it idle
that Signora hardly felicity: for your excellency, being almost
without exception; let my loue be without comparisone: and
if truth may haue beliefe, let my affection be without suspic-
tion: and as you haue won my heart with your eyes, make it
happy with your hands: so hoping that so sweet an object
can haue no sorrowesse in spirer, in the hope of your kyns
answer, I rest

Tours, desirous to be commanded.

A. B.

A Letter of Request.

Kinde friend: I shoulde content a littellesse, but for feare
of a deniali, not out of mine owne deserts, but rather
your disposition, whiche I doubt to too neare the nature of
the lassie, rather to graunt then to gratifie: yeles are moare
trials of hit therethrough, and a faythfull heart haileth no trou-
ble, and therfore, that I may not haue cause to injong
my selfe in any otheres confidence of your wchship, but right
to your selfe in the gree of that perfformante, that, without
parenthesys may conclude in a full point of lasselle. The
substance of my fuit I haue sent you by boord of mouth, be-
cause my hand-writing shall not wittnesse my unhappynesse
if my hope shoud faile the expectation of my affection, in
whiche without greater care of the contrarie, I rest,

Yours as you know, D. S.

A

A Letter of discoueray, vpon deniall of a Request.

My small friend; as I haue had no occasion to write to you before, I haue thought it fit to trouble you with this letter, to thank you for your verry kindnesse, and to let you know what I am, then your selfe shalbe: pardon my folly, in presuming above knawledge, and believe me no moare if I fall into the like error of opinion: you willed me to make accouint of your wisedome: power, in my good: It may be it was in wishes, which are easilly requited, but when they are hid of efters, they are but troubles to reason: I can not spell without letters, nor understand sayes without substance, therfore I haue to be tedious, when I haue too willingly haue troublesome, I pray you let complements be without cost, so shall bindnesse continue, in that consideracion of judgement that shal make me affrighted to you: quite your deniall of my request as I haue said;

Yours friend to command. T. V. who
is a man of few words, and a good man.

XXXXXX

To a Court Lady. and you to haue that I say

If love and desirousnesse, patience could haue no passion, but truth is so tyed to affection, that as a sound limbe it cannot haue. If you aske the reason of my affection, looks into the excellencie of your almes, beaute, and then if there be any certaintie, take with the best part, which groweth from your selfe: for such is my judgement of your desirousnesse, as can be answereed in nothing but in admiring: for surely, he must be either verie dim sighted that doth not preferre your beautie to a l shadoues, or dall witted, that worshippeth not the honour of your worthynesse. O joye, leane then, out of the sight of my best sense, and sense of my best

best flight, to devote my service to your command, that may give a happiness in your employmēt: and whēle this Complements are but Count fashions, let plaine truth have such acceptance in your favour, that Cupid may not impugn a true affection: (in whēch I doth ever to rest,

Yours all, or mine owne not at all,

J. G.

Her complemantall answer.

VWhat words shall I use to win your affection, holding vnder heaven my happiness but in your loue: if seruall would please you in your affaires, I would never rest but in your fauour: if gods might be gracioolly accepted, I would giue you any fauour for your loue: if pity might moue you, I would lay before you my passion: and if my death might onely answere your deale, I would not liue to despaine of your comfort: but loue being a spirit of that nature, that onely is pleased in being himselfe, I will leaue all my hopes to that happy hour, wherein he may in your eies, cast those blessed beames of fauour, vpon the fauour of my heart, that may make me in the infrangible bond of deuoted seruice to the last period of my life.

Yours vndoubtedly and onely rote.

John Fletcher commanded, E.N.

FINIS.

